

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 8, 13, and 14 are pending, with Claims 1 and 5 being independent.

The Abstract has been amended.

Claims 1 through 8, 13, and 14 yet again were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 5,206,739 (Miyaji) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,184,922 B1 (Saito, et al.) and Official Notice. All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 5 variously recite, *inter alia*, (a) if it is determined by the control unit (Claim 1) or if it is determined (Claim 5) that the external storage device is connected to the communication unit, starting providing the image and sound data from the communication unit to the external storage device in response to the record start instruction, *in combination with* (b) if it is determined by the control unit (Claim 1) or if it is determined (Claim 5) that the internal recording unit becomes unable to record the image and sound data on the recording medium and the communication unit is outputting the image and sound data, stopping providing the image and sound data from the communication unit to the external storage device in response to the record stop instruction.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that none of Miyaji, Saito, et al., and Official Notice, even in the proposed combinations, assuming, *arguendo*, that the same could be combined, discloses or suggests at least the above-discussed claimed combinations of claimed features as recited, *inter alia*, in Claims 1 and 5.

The Official Action states at page 5, lines 10-16 that Miyaji lacks feature (a) above, and as regards feature (b), Applicant respectfully submits that Miyaji shows, e.g., outputting an external trigger signal to the external recording unit 2 (i.e., stopping a recording operation of an external recording unit 2 by an external control signal), which Applicant respectfully submits provides neither a description nor a suggestion of *stopping providing the image and sound data* as claimed. In other words, Applicant respectfully wishes to explain that while Miyaji may provide the external control signal from a television camera to the external recording unit 2 in response to a record stop instruction, this reference cannot attain to stop a video signal being provided from the television camera to the external recording unit 2, in response to the record stop instruction — even when the recording operation of the external recording unit 2 is stopped in accordance with the external control signal, the television camera of Miyaji does not discontinue, in Applicant's view, supplying the video signal to the external recording unit.

Applicant respectfully submits that Saito, et al. and Official Notice fail to remedy the deficiencies of Miyaji. In particular, Applicant respectfully submits that Saito, et al. discloses, e.g., identifying the expansion unit and Saito, et al. is relied upon in the Official Action for showing IEEE-1394 “plug-n-play” functionality, while Official Notice is said to relate to a microphone unit, but that such provides neither a description nor a suggestion of at least the above-discussed claimed features. Further, it is respectfully requested that a reference be provided regarding the Official Notice. MPEP 2144.03.

It is also respectfully submitted that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited documents that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the above-discussed claimed features.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Rejection is an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, and is believed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that a full appreciation of these amendments will not require undue time or effort given the Examiner's familiarity with this application. Moreover, this Amendment was not earlier presented because Applicant earnestly believed that the prior Amendment placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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